

ABSTRACT

Method and device for changing the operating mode of a chip card reader according to the standard of the card inserted into the reader. The sequence is (a) set the reader to one standard, (b) initialize the card, to obtain a response, (c) analyze the response to determine conformity with the standard, (d) if conformity, engage the card (e) if no conformity, deactivate the card and set the reader to another standard, (f) repeat (b) - (e) with the new standard. The device includes at least one two-position switching-circuit connectable to a modules of different standards, a circuit for detecting the presence of a card in the reader, and at least one logic-unit for determining the position of the switching-circuit according to the presence or absence of the card in the reader and the response of the card as to conformity with the standard engaged.